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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU GRANTS CONSENT FOR THE TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF THE ASSETS OF NOONAN FARMERS TELEPHONE COMPANY TO NORTHWEST COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE

WC Docket No. 05-60

Pursuant to section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, and sections 0.91, 0.291, and 63.03 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.91, 0.291, 63.03, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) approves the application for transfer of control of Noonan Farmers Telephone Company's (NFTC) assets and facilities relating to the provision of local exchange telecommunications service, exchange access and other telecommunications in the Noonan exchange to Northwest Communications Cooperative (NCC). No comments were filed in this proceeding.

The Bureau finds, upon consideration of the record, that the proposed transfer will serve the public interest, convenience and necessity, and therefore grants the requested authorization.² Pursuant to section 1.103 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.103, the consent granted herein is effective upon the release of the Public Notice.³ Petitions for reconsideration under section 1.106 or applications for review under section 1.115 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.106, 1.115, may be filed within 30 days of the date of this Public Notice.

For further information, please contact Denise Coca at (202) 418-0574 in the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau.

¹ See Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for Transfer of Control of the Assets of Noonan Farmers Telephone Company to Northwest Communications Cooperative; Noonan Farmers Telephone Company and Northwest Communications Cooperative Seek Waiver of the Study Area Boundary Freeze as Codified in Part 36 of the Commission's Rules, WC Docket No. 05-60; CC Docket No. 96-45, Public Notice, DA 05-539 (rel. Mar. 2, 2005).

² See Joint Applications of Global Crossing Ltd., and Citizens Communications Company for Authority to Transfer Control of Corporations Holding Commission Licenses and Authorizations Pursuant to Sections 214 and 310(d) of the Communications Act and Parts 20, 22, 63, 78, 90, and 101 of the Commission's Rules, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 16 FCC Rcd 8507, 8511-14 (CCB/IB/CSB/WTB 2001) (granting transfer of control involving incumbent LECs with adjacent exchanges where merger would provide service efficiencies).

³ Action on this domestic section 214 application is without prejudice to any action the Commission may take on the pending waiver requests that were filed along with this application.